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578. *DAFILA ACUTA*, Jenyns.—Sprig-tail ; Pin-tail.
 579. *NETTION CAROLINENSIS*, Baird.—Green-winged Teal.
 582. *QUERQUEDULA CYANOPTERUS*, Cassin.—Red-breasted Teal.
 583. *SPATULA CLYPEATA*, Boie.—Shoveller.
 585. *MARECA AMERICANA*, Stephens.—Baldpate.
 591. *AYTHYA AMERICANA*, Bonap.—Red-head.
 595. *BUCEPHALA ALBEOLEA*, Baird.—Butter Ball.
 609. *ERISMATURA RUBIDA*, Bonap.—Ruddy-Duck.
 663. *LARUS CALIFORNICUS*, Lawr.—California Gull.
 698. *COLYMBUS TORQUATUS*, Brünn.—Loon.

SYRNIUM OCCIDENTALE, Xantus.

Sp. Char. A little smaller than *S. nebulosum*; general color liver brown, the feathers barred everywhere, even on the flanks. Axillars and under wing and tail coverts banded transversely with white, the bands towards and on the head are contracted into rounded spots.

General appearance that of *S. nebulosum*. Prevailing color light liver brown, each short feather with two transverse bars of white, the basal one tinged with rufous yellow; the subterminal pure white and not generally extending to the edges of the feathers. These bars have a marginal suffusion of brown darker than the ground color. On the top of the head and neck the subterminal bar exhibits a tendency to contraction into rounded or cordate spots, and in other places to a median interruption along the shaft. On the scapulars, axillars and other elongated feathers, there are several white bars. The facial disk is grayish, obscurely barred with brown, the posterior margin of the ear is uniform liver brown, then becoming banded with white. The longest quills and tail feathers show about 7 to 9 clouded transverse light bars, one of these at the end of the feather; those bars on the inner and outer margins are quite white, especially towards the base of the feather, elsewhere they are mottled yellowish brown, or brownish yellow; the legs are dirty yellowish, with obscure and rather transverse mottlings of brown. The bill is greenish yellow; the iris gamboge: the claws horn color; the toes are thickly feathered to within two scutellæ of the base of the claws. The fourth quill is longest, the fifth and then the third a little shorter, the second between the 6th and 7th; the first rather shorter than the eighth.

Length of male 18 inches; extent 40; wing 13; tail $8\frac{1}{2}$; tarsus about 2.

This species, with a general resemblance to the *Syrnium nebulosum*, is of rather smaller size, and readily distinguished by the entire absence of any of the longitudinal brown stripes so conspicuous on the belly, flanks and lower tail coverts of the latter species; these regions being barred transversely with white and brown. The white bars on the feathers are much less continuous and regular, and on the neck and head are restricted to rounded spots instead of forming regular zones. The under wing coverts are banded transversely instead of being uniform yellowish white. The bill is less pure yellow.

A single specimen (original number 1588) was collected at Fort Tejon, March 6th, 1858.

August 2d.

Major LE CONTE, Vice President, in the Chair.

Present seventeen members.

Dr. Hammond read a letter from Miss M. H. Morris of Germantown, giving an account of a luminous larva, two inches long, which was found in a forest, at the Delaware Water Gap. Miss M. observes, "the whole length of the 1859.]

under part of the body, the intervals of the segments, the prolegs and spiracles, shine with a pale green light. The insect, which is now kept in a box with decaying wood and earth, has penetrated into the latter, and appears to be ready to assume the pupa form." Should it undergo its perfect metamorphosis, Miss M. promises to give the Academy a further account of the insect.

August 16th.

Major LE CONTE, Vice President, in the Chair.

Present eighteen members.

A paper was presented for publication in the Proceedings entitled "New Genera and Species of North American Tipulidæ with short palpi, with an attempt at a new classification of the tribe, by R. Osten Sacken;" and also the following:

"Description of a type of Gobioids, intermediate between Solinæ and Tridentigerinæ. By Theodore Gill."

"Description of a new South American type of Siluroids allied to Callophysus. By Theodore Gill." Which were referred to Committees.

August 23d.

Mr. LEA, President, in the Chair.

Present twenty-five members.

Dr. Leidy read a letter from Dr. G. J. Fisher, dated at Sing Sing, New York, giving an account of an antler of the Reindeer, which had been found in the vicinity of the place mentioned. The specimen was discovered in excavating a peat bed, at the depth of six feet from the surface. The peat bed is almost an acre in extent, surrounded by high ground, and looks as if it had been the site of an ancient lake. Dr. L. observed that there is a similar specimen of an antler of the Reindeer in the museum of the Academy, which had been found near Vincentown, New Jersey, at the depth of four feet. See Proc. 1858, 179. The discovery of these remains of the Reindeer, and likewise of the remains of the Walrus, in similar positions in New Jersey, (See Trans. Am. Phil. Soc. xi. 83,) favor the view that the arctic fauna at one period extended its boundary much more southerly than at present.

Dr. Leidy further exhibited a drawing of a singular and beautiful animalcule, which he had obtained in his recent visit to Newport, Rhode Island. The animalcule occupies a green, curved, vase-like tube, attached to dead shells, in company with Serpulæ, which were dredged by Mr. Powel from Newport harbor. The vase-like tube has an oblong oval, prostrate body, an erect, narrow neck, and an expanded, convolvulus-like mouth. The body of the animalcule is dark bottle green, and presents the same general structural appearance as the Stentors. From the body projects a funnel-shaped expansion, dividing into two lips like a labiate flower. The margins of the lips and the interior of the funnel are ciliated; and both lips are capable of closing, and with the funnel are retractile within the tube of the animalcule. The size of the latter is almost the fifth of a line in length; and it appears to be allied to the Stentors, and more nearly resembles the *Chætospira Mülleri* Lachmann, than any other animalcule Dr. L. had seen described. It was named *Freyia Americana*.

[Aug.